

Message Text

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NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

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SECDEF WASHDC

INFO DCA WASHDC

MCEB WASHDC

USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 5625

E.O. 11652: GDS: 12-31-79

TAGS: ETEL, MARR, NATO

SUBJ: DPC MEETING NOV 27 - AUTHOMTIC TELEPHONE CAPABILITY IN NICS

1. SUMMARY: IN PO/73/153, SECGEN LUNS POINTS OUT THAT NJCEC WAS UNABLE TO REACH UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT AT ITS NOV 6-7 MEETING ON NICSMA'S PROPOSAL FOR PROCUREMENT OF AN INITIAL TELEPHONE SWITCHING CAPABILITY FOR NICS. TO ACHIEVE SIGNIFICANT AND URGENTLY NEEDED IMPROVEMENT IN NATO'S COMMUNICATIONS BY 1976, DECISION TO GO AHEAD WITH THIS PROJECT MUST BE TAKEN BY MID-DEC. LUNS NOTES THAT NJCEC "WISHES TO BRING THIS MATTER TO THE ATTENTION OF THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE SO THAT IT COULD, IF NECESSARY, AND IN THE EVENT THAT UNANIMOUS APPROVAL HAS NOT BEEN REACHED BY THAT TIME BE CONSIDERED BY MINISTERS AT THEIR MEETING IN DECEMBER." UNLESS ITALIAN RESERVATION IS WITHDRAWN BY NOV 27 MEETING OF DPC, SECGEN WILL INCLUDE THIS ISSUE ON DPC AGENDA. ACTION REQUESTED: US GUIDANCE IN STATE 215535 IS ADEQUATE. NO FURTHER WASHINGTON ACTION REQUIRED. END SUMMARY.
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2. SECGEN HAS ATTACHED TO HIS PO AN ANNEX ON BACKGROUND OF ISSUE. SINCE ANNEX IS HELPFUL TO UNDERSTANDING OF ISSUE AND SINCE ISSUE MAY BE ON AGENDA OF DPC MINISTERIAL, ANNEX IS QUOTED BELOW.

BEGIN ANNEX.

"1. WHEN THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE IN MINISTERIAL SESSION AGREED THAT THERE WAS AN URGENT NEED TO IMPROVE NATO'S COMMUNICATIONS AND APPROVED THE CONCEPT OF THE NATO INTEGRATED COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM (NICS), IT DIRECTED THE DPC IN PERMANENT SESSION TO ENSURE THAT AN EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION WAS SET UP AS A MATTER OF URGENCY.

"2. THERE WAS A NUMBER OF UNAVOIDABLE DELAYS IN TAKING THE DECISIONS THAT WERE NECESSARY TO INITIATE THE NICS IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS (INCLUDING THOSE ASSOCIATED WITH PRODUCTION-SHARING AND "HOST NATION" RESPONSIBILITY), BUT THE NATO JOINT COMMUNICATIONS-ELECTRONICS COMMITTEE (NJCEC), ACTING AS THE NICS POLICY COMMITTEE, AGREED, AT ITS MEETING IN JULY 1972, UPON THE COMPONENT PARTS OF THE FIRST CONFIGURATION (CONFIGURATION A), AND INVITED THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, NICSMA, TO COMPRESS THE IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE TO THE MAXIMUM POSSIBLE EXTENT. THESE ACTIONS WERE REPORTED TO THE DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE AND WERE ENDORSED BY THAT COMMITTEE AT ITS MEETING ON 19TH SEPTEMBER, 1972.

"3. IN STUDYING THE FEASIBILITY OF ACCELERATING THE IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE, THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, NICSMA, CONDUCTED AN EXTENSIVE SURVEY OF THE CAPABILITIES OF NATO ELECTRONIC INDUSTRIES TO PROVIDE THE SOPHISTICATED NODAL SWITCHING FACILITIES WHICH WERE ENVISAGED IN THE BASIC CONCEPT. THIS SURVEY REVEALED THAT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS CONCEPT WOULD REQUIRE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AND THAT, BECAUSE OF THIS, IT WAS UNLIKELY THAT THIS FEATURE OF THE SYSTEM COULD BE INTRODUCED UNTIL 1980-81. IT WAS THEREFORE PROPOSED BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, NICSMA, THAT CONFIGURATION A SHOULD BE ACHIEVED WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF:

(A) AN AUTOMATICALLY SWITCHED TELEGRAPH NETWORK (TARE PROGRAMME);

(B) A SECURE VOICE CAPABILITY THROUGH THE PILOT SECURE VOICE PROJECT (PSVP);

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(C) ADDITIONAL GROUND TERMINALS TO COINCIDE WITH THE AVAILABILITY OF THE NATO PHASE III SPACE SEGMENT;

(D) AN INITIAL AUTOMATICALLY SWITCHED TELEPHONE NETWORK.

"4. THE NJCEC RECOGNIZED THAT THESE STEPS WOULD BRING ABOUT SOME OF THE URGENTLY NEEDED IMPROVEMENTS FOR NATO COMMUNICATIONS AND ACCEPTED THAT THE INITIAL SWITCHED TELEPHONE NETWORK WOULD SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF NATO'S VOICE COMMUNICATIONS.

"5. SINCE, ON THE ONE HAND, THE SOPHISTICATED NICS NODES EVENTUALLY REQUIRED WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL THE EARLY 1970S AND AS, ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE IS, ON THE MARKET TODAY, A FAMILY OF ACCESS SWITCHES WHICH CAN SERVE IN BOTH THE PRESENT

AND FUTURE ENVIRONMENT, THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, NICSMA, HAS PROPOSED THE PURCHASE OF A LIMITED NUMBER OF SUCH SWITCHES. THESE, SUITABLY INTERCONNECTED VIA EXISTING AND/OR PLANNED NATO COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA, WILL MAKE A MEANINGFUL TELEPHONE SWITCHING CAPABILITY BY 1976/77.

"6. THE MOST IMPORTANT FEATURES OF THIS SOLUTION ARE:

(A) THAT THE SWITCHES WILL BE CAPABLE OF BEING INTEGRATED INTO THE ULTIMATE SYSTEM, AND WILL IN NO WAY INHIBIT THE DEVELOPMENT OF SUCH A SYSTEM IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AGREED CONCEPT;

(B) THAT THERE WILL BE DIRECT DIALING FROM SUBSCRIBER TO SUBSCRIBER;

(C) THAT, FOR ASSIGNED AUTHORITIES, THERE WILL BE THE POSSIBILITY TO PRE-EMPT CIRCUITS IN ACCORDANCE WITH DESIGNATED PRIORITIES;

(D) THE CAPABILITY TO SET UP CONFERENCE CALLS; I.E. SEVERAL SUBSCRIBERS CAN BE INTERCONNECTED AT THE SAME TIME;

(E) THE PROVISION OF "HOT LINES", I.E. DIRECT TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS TO PRE-ARRANGED SUBSCRIBERS, FOR CERTAIN USERS;

(F) THAT THE NATO HEADQUARTERS, ALL NATO MILITARY HEAD-QUARTERS AND CAPITALS WILL BE SERVED, REPRESENTING ABOUT 60 PER CENT OF THE SUBSCRIBERS CONTEMPLATED IN CONFIGURATION A;

(G) THAT IT WILL PROVIDE A CONSIDERABLE IMPROVEMENT IN THE GRADE OF SERVICE FOR ROUTINE PRECEDENCE CONNECTIONS AND SUBSTANTIALLY NO RESTRICTIONS FOR USERS WHO ARE ALLOTTED THE USE OF PRECEDENCES 1 AND 2 (I.E. THE HIGHEST TWO PRECEDENCES).

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USNATO 5625

"7. THE ABOVE PROPOSAL FOR ADVANCING AN INITIAL TELEPHONE SWITCHING CAPABILITY HAS BEEN BEFORE THE NJCEC SINCE ITS MEETING IN JULY 1973. THE COMMITTEE, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ITALY, COULD ACCEPT THIS PROPOSAL IN PRINCIPLE. THE ITALIAN AUTHORITIES SUBSTANTIATED THEIR RESERVATION IN A LETTER TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NICSO POLICY COMMITTEE WHICH WAS CIRCULATED TO DELEGATIONS AND TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, NICSMA, UNDER COVER OF WRM/73/170 AND WRM/73/169 RESPECTIVELY. THE DIRECTOR GENRAL, NICSMA, RESPONDED TO THE QUESTIONS RAISED IN THE ITALIAN NOTE AND HIS COMMENTS, HAVING BEEN FULLY CO-ORDINATED AND SUPPORTED BY THE THREE MAJOR NATO COMMANDERS, WERE CIRCULATED SUBSEQUENTLY TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE NJCEC BY MESSAGE NAC/2928.

"8. AT THE MEETING OF NJCEC ON 6TH AND 7TH NOVEMBER, 1973, THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, NICSMA, INDICATED THAT A REPORT COVERING THE PROPOSED SCOPE OF, AND PROCUREMENT METHOD FOR, THE PROJECT WAS BEFORE THE INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE. THE NJCEC THEREFORE RECONSIDERED THE PROPOSAL FOR AN INITIAL TELEPHONE CONFIDENTIAL

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SWITCHING CAPABILITY AS OUTLINED IN PARAGRAPH 5 ABOVE AND TOOK SPECIAL NOTE OF THE STRONG SUPPORT WHICH WAS GIVEN IT BY ALL THREE MNCS. SUBJECT TO A RESERVATION BY ITALY, THE COMMITTEE REAFFIRMED ITS PREVIOUS DECISION THAT THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, NICSMA, SHOULD PROCEED WITH THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE INTRODUCTION OF AN INITIAL TELEPHONE SWITCHING CAPABILITY FOR THE NICS AND AGREED THAT HE SHOULD INITIATE THE NECESSARY IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS.

"9. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NICSO POLICY COMMITTEE REPORTS THAT, UNLESS ITALY LIFTS HER RESERVATION IN THE LIGHT OF THE FURTHER INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE DIRECTORY GENERAL, NICSMA, HE HAS BEEN UNABLE TO ACHIEVE UNANIMOUS ENDORSEMENT OF THIS PROJECT WHICH:

- (A) IS FULLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH A DEFENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE DECISION TO ADVANCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NICS PROGRAMME TO THE MAXIMUM POSSIBLE EXTENT;
- (B) OFFERS AN IMPORTANT IMPROVEMENT TO NATO'S COMMUNICATIONS AS SET OUT IN PARAGRAPH 6 ABOVE;
- (C) WILL FORM AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE EVENTUAL NICS NODAL SWITCHING SYSTEM AS APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL ON 5TH MAY, 1971, AND CAN DO SO WITHOUT MAJOR MODIFICATIONS;
- (D) IS SUPPORTED BY ALL NATIONS (EXCEPT ITALY) AND ALSO BY THE THREE MAJOR NATO COMMANDERS; AND
- (E) WILL GREATLY CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVING THE CAPABILITY FOR MUTUAL POLITICAL CONSULTATION AND THE PROVISION OF DIRECTION TO THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES IN TIMES OF TENSION, CRISIS

AND WAR, AS WELL AS IN PEACETIME. END ANNEX. RUMSFELD

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